

Update on the Quarterly Reports Submitted by Alliant International University May 2009

Overview of this Report

This agenda item presents an update on the quarterly reports received from Alliant International University and the next steps for Alliant International University (AIU) in the Commission's accreditation system.

Staff Recommendation

This is an information item only.

Background from Initial May 2008 and Interim November 2008 Visits

Alliant International University (AIU) offers the following programs: Multiple Subject, with Intern; Single Subject, with Intern; Pupil Personnel Services, with Intern; and Preliminary Administrative Services. AIU's initial accreditation visit took place May 4-7, 2008. On June 19, 2008 the COA accepted the team's recommendation of ***Accreditation with Probationary Stipulations***, approved seven stipulations and directed the CTC staff consultant and team leader to conduct an interim re-visit to assess the university's progress in meeting all standards and addressing the stipulations. The Stipulations are included in the matrix below. The COA made it clear that the interim re-visit team would also provide technical assistance to Alliant staff preparing for the November 2009 full-team re-visit. Since the initial May 2008 accreditation visit, AIU representatives have met with CTC staff to discuss preparations for the interim re-visit. An interim re-visit was conducted on November 9-11, 2008. Additional technical assistance in the form of in-person discussions, presentations, phone calls and e-messages has also been provided. In spring 2009 AIU changed the name of its Graduate School of Education to the Shirley Hufstedler School of Education. Mrs. Hufstedler is a former United States Secretary of Education and AIU feels that her ideals of educational quality, equality and access parallel those of the school of education at Alliant International University.

Alliant International University's Progress in Addressing the Stipulations

Stipulations	Institutional Response
That the institution be required to provide evidence that all standards less than fully met are appropriately addressed and met within one year of the date of this action.	AIU submitted a plan to address the standards in August 2008. The November 8-11, 2009 full re-visit team will review all standards less than fully met. The re-visit team's findings will be considered during the January 2010 COA meeting.
That the institution provide evidence of the implementation of a comprehensive program evaluation system involving program participants, graduates, and local practitioners. The University must demonstrate the potential for assuring continuous program improvement in all	The November 9-11, 2008 interim re-visit team confirmed that AIU has implemented a system-wide, comprehensive evaluation and assessment system that incorporates candidate data from the TPA and program data through curriculum and instruction assessment. AIU anticipates that this system will drive necessary programmatic

Stipulations	Institutional Response
credential program areas, including the alternative certification program.	changes. The November 8-11, 2009 Re-visit team findings will either confirm or deny that continuous program improvement in all areas takes place. This stipulation is also related to Common Standard 4, Evaluation.
That the institution provide a written plan to the Commission within 30 days, which addresses how the institution will address the stipulations. The institution will provide quarterly progress reports thereafter.	AIU submitted a plan to address the stipulations in August 2008. Quarterly Progress Reports were submitted on October 10, 2008, January 10, 2009 and April 10, 2009. Each report indicates that AIU continues to address the stipulations and the standards that were not fully met. The final Quarterly Progress Report is due July 10, 2009.
That the institution receive an interim re-visit by the Commission and team chair within six months of the receipt of the action plan as well as a full team re-visit within twelve months of the interim re-visit. All credential programs, including all alternative certification programs, with attention to the Education Specialist and CTEL programs, are to be re-evaluated as well as the Common Standards at the time of the re-visit.	The interim re-visit was conducted November 9-11, 2008. The re-visit team recommended that one stipulation be removed (stipulation #6, related to the review of the Administrative Services program) one remains (stipulation #1), and the other five amended to indicate progress. The team also found that although the university has made progress in addressing the stipulations and meeting all standards, not all stipulations and standards are met. Based upon these findings, the re-visit team made a recommendation that the accreditation status, <i>Accreditation with Probationary Stipulations</i> , remains unchanged. On January 15, 2009 the COA accepted the interim re-visit team's accreditation recommendation. The AIU full team re-visit is scheduled for November 8-11, 2009.
That all credential candidates be informed of these findings within sixty (60) days of the COA action must be submitted to the Commission within thirty (30) days of this action. All applicants are to be informed of the accreditation status until such time it is changed.	AIU reports that all applicants and candidates are informed of the university's accreditation status. A letter identifying the accreditation status was mailed to all candidates in September 2008 and continues to be mailed to applicants.
That Alliant International University must complete the initial program review process for their Preliminary Administrative Services preparation program.	The initial review of the revised AIU Administrative Services program was completed August 6, 2008. This stipulation was removed January 15, 2009.
That AIU a. Must notify all candidates who began coursework in the Preliminary Administrative Services credential program	A list of the Administrative Services program candidates was received and all Administrative Services students have been notified of the AIU accreditation status. A letter identifying the

Stipulations	Institutional Response
<p>prior to September 1, 2006, by letter, that they must complete the program by August 31, 2008 in order to be recommended by the institution. A list of those candidates and a copy of the letter must be received by the Commission by July 15, 2008.</p> <p>b. Must notify all candidates who began coursework in the Preliminary Administrative Services credential program after August 31, 2006, by letter, that the program is not currently approved by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing and they may not be recommended for credential. A list of those candidates and a copy of the letter must be received by the Commission by July 15, 2008.</p> <p>c. May not admit any new candidates to the Preliminary Administrative Services program until the revised program is approved by the COA.</p>	<p>accreditation status is being mailed to Administrative candidates. A copy of the letter has been requested.</p> <p>AIU reports that no new students were admitted to the AIU old Administrative Services Program in fall 2008.</p> <p>Since the November 2008 interim re-visit, all candidates who were in the old Administrative Services program have matriculated to the new approved credential program. AIU reports in its April Quarterly Progress Report that there are currently no applications for admission to the Administrative Services program.</p>

Addressing the Common Standards

Common Standard 2 Resources: AIU reports that they have changed their technology delivery system from Blackboard to MOODLE. System wide, faculty, staff, adjuncts, online instructors and students are being trained in the new system and will receive technology support as needed. 24/7 support was not yet available at the time of the last report. AIU technology staff is working to establish this level of support.

AIU has the following new hires:

- One new faculty member who will serve in the Los Angeles campus Pupil Personnel: School Psychology Program.
- Two new faculty for the San Francisco campus, one for San Diego and two new faculty will provide leadership in Los Angeles. All will support the Multiple and Single Subject Credential programs.
- AIU reports that there are currently no Administrative Services program applications for summer or fall 2009. Due to this fact, the system-wide program director requested that the hiring of new administrative faculty be postponed until a new cohort begins. Commission staff has suggested that AIU requests an Inactive status for their Administrative Services Program.

Common Standard 4 Evaluation: Please see information included for Stipulation 2.

Common Standard 7 School Collaboration: AIU reports that all programs have established system-wide advisory councils for their respective programs. The Teacher Education program has begun to reach out to school districts with which they have MOU's and meet regularly with

district new teacher support personnel. The re-visit team confirmed that AIU has a relationship with several area schools and that AIU faculty serves on local school district advisory boards.

Common Standard 8 District-Employed Field Supervisors: AIU reports that each campus has a field supervisor coordinator who works with local districts to facilitate collaboration between the district support supervisor and university field supervisor/mentor. The interim re-visit team confirmed that AIU has hired a Mentor Coordinator for the Multiple and Single Subject programs and that efforts to ensure that teacher education candidates have an onsite mentor that is appropriately credentialed are in place.

Addressing the Program Standards

Multiple Subject, with Internship

Single Subject, with Internship

AIU reports that all teaching credential candidates are seamlessly incorporated into their teacher preparation programs. Certification expectations for all candidates are based upon their certification path (traditional candidate, intern and Early Completion Option intern, or ECO intern). Certification requirements for traditional candidates and interns are clearly described and available online. Program requirements for each certification path are mailed upon request to program applicants. ECO intern candidates complete the Teaching Foundations Examination and a clearly defined series of seminars and workshops that allow them to practice the TPEs.

All candidate evaluation instruments, data collection documents and syllabi are aligned with and place a focus on the TPEs. Course Readers that serve as a crosswalk between theory and practice have been developed and aligned with TPEs. The Readers are utilized as a basis for instruction and helps ensure the incorporation of opportunities to both study and practice the TPEs.

A Teacher Education Advisory Board that supports the programs has been established and meets three times per year.

A database system that identifies all program candidates, the number of candidates and their certification paths has been established. Internal database and admissions codes have been adjusted and aligned to facilitate clear reporting of candidate enrollment numbers for each certification path.

Communication logs have been developed so that meetings between field supervisors and IHE faculty are documented.

Training for support providers, mentors and adjunct faculty has been revised to ensure extensive training in TPEs and targeted training in the TPA.

Addressing Specific Program Standards:

PS 5: Equity, Diversity, and Access to the Core Curriculum for All Children

Supervisor evaluations now contain an element which measures their support of candidates in the arena of gender issues and pedagogy.

PS 6: Opportunities to Learn, Practice and Reflect on Teaching in all Subject Areas

All AIU campuses now require the TPA. All Alliant sites are supported by a faculty member who has been trained as a TPA coordinator and ensures awareness, training, and compliance with TPA standards. Additionally, the Curriculum Committee is reviewing syllabi and making necessary revisions to include formative and summative assessments in courses.

PS 7A: Multiple Subject Reading, Writing and Related Language Instruction in English and

PS 7B: Single Subject Reading, Writing, and Related Language Instruction in English

AIU reports that effective reading strategies are incorporated into the seminar capstone course. Supervisor training has been revised to target reading instruction and to ensure selection of master teachers who are experienced in the delivery of reading comprehension, fluency and assessment. Criteria are established for field placements and field experience placements are researched and supported by AIU. Interaction between university supervisors and master teachers is documented.

PS 8A: Pedagogical Preparation for Subject-Specific Content Instruction by Multiple Subject Candidates

AIU reports that the Curriculum Committee will review and revise syllabi to ensure that candidate activities are related to the TPEs. The Curriculum Committee is also reviewing multiple subject method courses to ensure that each addresses curriculum frameworks and academic content standards.

PS 8B: Pedagogical Preparation for Subject-Specific Content Instruction for Single Subject Candidates

The Curriculum Committee is reviewing and revising the content of the integrated course to ensure clear outcomes based on subject-specific area of focus.

PS 9: Technology

The Curriculum Committee is currently reviewing the content of all technology courses. Syllabi will be revised to include required content.

PS 15: Learning to Teach Through Supervised Fieldwork

AIU reports that candidates have multiple supervisors inclusive of their Alliant supervisor and several district supervisors. Each candidate is assigned a university support provider who meets with them on multiple occasions during the semester for observation, coaching, planning and evaluation.

Standard 16: Selection of Fieldwork Sites and Qualifications of Field Supervisors

Supervisors receive training in August, January and May/June. Evaluation of supervisors' effectiveness is both informal, through the coordinator, and formal. Evaluation takes place twice per semester. Training has been developed to ensure targeted training, with a clear focus on the TPEs, at least three times each academic year. This training is also supported by a weekly training newsletter.

Standard 18: Pedagogical Assignments and Formative Assessments

AIU reports that the TPA Coordinator works collaboratively with the San Diego teacher education program director, who is a trained TPA assessor, to ensure delivery of TPA training to San Diego and Los Angeles faculty and mentors. August training of supervisors targets the TPEs integration into their work with candidates and evaluation of candidates.

Standard 19: Assessment of Candidate Performance

Training of adjunct faculty and supervisors targets the TPEs integration into Candidate assessment and activities. AIU has identified TPA resource people who provide support and information to all campuses.

Pupil Personnel Services: School Psychology with Internship

AIU reports progress addressing the team's findings related to the approved Pupil Personnel Services program. Please see the response to Common Standard 2 about the new hire for the PPS program. To date, this is all of the update information that has been received. Additional information has been requested.

Preliminary Administrative Services

AIU cites the August 6, 2008 COA approval of the preliminary Administrative Services credential program as progress toward meeting the program standards. The program has a clear rationale and design. All course syllabi are current, instructional leadership is embedded throughout the courses and candidates complete an electronic portfolio. Portfolio field activities are based upon the California Professional Standards for Educational Leaders (CPSEL). Candidate performance is assessed in every course as well as in the field and the portfolio. Field supervisors meet regularly with candidates and site supervisors.

Next Steps:

The final AIU Quarterly Progress Report is due July 10, 2009. AIU has a full team re-visit scheduled for November 8-11, 2009. The report from this re-visit will be presented to the COA at its January 2010 meeting.